

Ceredigion Circuit

Charity Registration Number 1188313

Trustee's Annual Report, Year Ending 31 August 2025

Registered address: St Paul Methodist Centre, Queens Road, Aberystwyth, SY23 2NN

www.ceredigionmethodists.org.uk

Objectives and Activities

The Ceredigion Circuit is part of the Wales Synod in the Methodist Church in Britain. The Circuit supports the mission and outreach of Methodist Churches and communities in Aberystwyth, Lampeter and the surrounding area.

As part of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, we are governed by the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976), adopted 20 Sep 1932 as amended by statutory instrument dated 14 Jun 2017. These documents include the charitable objectives:

“The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the Union the advancement of:

- (A) the Christian Faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;
- (B) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, Local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;
- (C) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;
- (D) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.”

For the Ceredigion Circuit, our mission statement is “To have a living relationship with God through worship, to encourage one another to grow as Christians, to live the Good News of Jesus and to share God's unconditional love for everyone.”

Working with the churches in the Circuit, this includes the following benefits for the public:

- Providing public worship, led by ordained ministers and local preachers in the Circuit.
- Being available for marriages, baptisms, and funerals, by arrangement.
- Running regular meetings and events that help people from the community to join in as they feel able, including Bible study and prayer groups, a Pay as you Feel café, coffee mornings and evening meals, art groups, guardian and toddler groups, community engagement/entertainment events, and additional activities aimed at students and disadvantaged groups.
- Making church buildings available for community, charity and commercial lettings.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2024/25 financial year (FY) the circuit continued to provide for services of worship and groups meeting in churches (in Aberystwyth and Lampeter), online, and in members' homes; as well as providing weekly online services on YouTube.

The Circuit and its churches continued specific work, emphasised since the 2022/23 report, targeted at students, the poor, those self-identifying as neuro-diverse, and those from the LGBTQ+ communities.

The Circuit also continued to make significant reductions in the carbon footprint of its premises, including the installation of LED lighting throughout St Paul's Methodist Centre in Aberystwyth.

During the 2024/25 financial year, the Circuit was without a full-time Superintendent Minister based in Ceredigion (the vacancy to be filled from September 2025). Despite this, the substantive activities of the circuit were maintained (and in some cases grew) due to the continued commitment of church members and volunteers together with two paid employees: a Lay Missioner (27h/wk), and an Administrator (14h/wk). Necessary formal duties of a Superintendent Minister were performed during the year by Rev'd Malcolm Peacock (from the Mid-Glamorgan Mission Circuit).

The Lay Missioner was a project-based appointment (three years from 1 October 2023) funded by the Synod Advance Fund and the Synod block grant for Methodist Action on Poverty and Justice, together with a contribution from the Circuit's Model Trust Fund (see below).

Financial Review

Our accounts are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis and are independently examined. The report for the 2024/25 financial year is at the end of this report. As of 31st August 2025, the Circuit had receipts of £107,739, payments of £88,770, and total funds remaining of £191,562. Of this remaining total, £19,742 was reserved for the Lay Missioner 'project', and a further £65,833 was held in a Model Trust Fund which could be used for projects in the Circuit only after approval by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). Disregarding the Lay Missioner 'project' and TMCP monies, unrestricted funds increased by £31,500 to £105,986 during the financial year, largely due to the churches maintaining their contribution to the Circuit despite not needing to pay the stipend of a Superintendent Minister. The balance of unrestricted funds at year end equates to about 13 months of projected expenditure for when a Superintendent Minister is in place (as will be the case in 2025/26): our reserves are thus considered to be more than adequate given current guidelines.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Circuit's governance is established by policies from the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The Circuit has a leadership team, comprised of the Chair (Superintendent Minister), Treasurer, Circuit Stewards and Meeting Secretary. All the leadership team are trustees. The leadership team oversees

the general management of the Circuit and is responsible to the Circuit Meeting (which includes all trustees).

The Circuit Meeting occurs in the Autumn and Spring as a minimum for formal decision making. Other Circuit Meetings are arranged when appropriate; the members are otherwise consulted online and by email as and when required.

Trustees

Our typical time to change roles in the Circuit is Early September. Those changes are recorded at the Circuit Meeting in September. Trustees for the 2024/25 FY:

- Rev'd Malcom Peacock (Chair)
- Ruth Gooding (Secretary)
- Rev'd David Jones
- Rev'd Peter Edwin Barber
- Rev'd Phillip Alun Poynor
- Arnold Smith
- Charlene Mary Crampin
- David Henry Crimes
- Dionne Sherwood
- Elizabeth Edwards
- Glyn Jenkins
- Jean Millest-Baker
- Julia Ann Christine Jenkins
- Kathryn Anne Wright
- Michael Jonathan Gooding (Treasurer)
- Susan Peterson
- Barbara Jill Barber

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:

Full name: Michael Jonathan Gooding

Position: Circuit Treasurer

Date: 4 November 2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Ceredigion	Circuit
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2025

Wales Synod Cymru	District	Circuit no	2/10
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1188313

If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number

N/A

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Ministers:

Rev'd Malcolm Peacock

Circuit Stewards:

Elizabeth Edwards
David Crimes
Dionne Sherwood
Michael Gooding

Treasurer:

Michael Gooding

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Ceredigion

Circuit

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		74,827			74,827	74,827
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		3,632	3,500		7,132	7,970
a5	Grants		4,000		20,000	24,000	24,000
a6	Other receipts		1,780			1,780	4,960
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		84,238.78	3,499.90	20,000.00	107,738.68 (a8)	111,757

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		15,989		22,584	38,572	69,133
b3	Manse Costs		9,781			9,781	9,839
b4	Administration etc		973	248	771	1,992	2,445
b5	District/ Synod Assessment		18,588	1,910		20,498	21,601
b6	Grants & donations						337
b7	Capital Projects (Carbon reduction)		1,880	4,904		6,784	25,465
b8	Other payments		5,528		615	6,143	3,837
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		52,738.64	7,062.16	23,969.54	83,770.34 (b9)	132,657

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	31,500	(3,562)	(3,970)	23,968	(20,900)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		74,486	76,396	16,711	167,593 (c6)	188,493
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	105,986	72,833	12,742	191,562	167,593
c4	Transfers and adjustments			(7,000)	7,000		
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	105,986	65,833	19,742	191,562 (c8)	167,593 (c6)

SECTION D					
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)				
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)				

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	107,739 (a8)	83,770 (b9)	23,968	(c7)	167,593 (c6)	191,562 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	107,739	83,770	23,968		167,593 (x)	191,562 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	21,189	25,546
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	70,009	100,183
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	76,395	65,833
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	167,593 (c6)	191,562 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	167,593 (x)	191,562 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board


f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Name of Circuit: Ceredigion Circuit No: 2/10

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer  Date 20/9/2025

Name and address of treasurer: Michael Gooding, Treetops, Cae Melyn

Aberystwyth Post Code: SY23 2HA

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 9 October 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev. Tina Swire Date 6/11/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Ceredigion Circuit

Charity Number: 1188313

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Ceredigion Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 2 to 3 As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit: Ceredigion Circuit..... No: 2/10

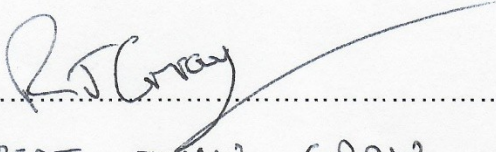
Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- ~~the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or~~
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I ~~have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner ... ROBERT JOHN GRAY F.C.A.

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner F.C.A.

Name of firm (where appropriate) PJE ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

Address 23 COLLEGE STREET, LAMPETER

..... CEREDIGION Post Code SA48 7DY

Date 4 NOVEMBER 2025

* delete or circle as appropriate

Ceredigion Circuit • Accounts for year ending 31st August 2025

Notes to the Accounts

Format of the accounts

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

Reserves Policy

The Circuit's Reserves Policy is that it should be an amount that is approximately equal to six-months of expenditure. Following guidance from the District Finance Officer in 2017, the Circuit meeting agreed that it would be willing to lower the Reserves Policy in order to release funds for use.

Disregarding the restricted income and expenditure, and the funds to be spent only on approval of Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP), unrestricted funds remaining at year end on 31st August 2025 amounted to £105,986 with total projected expenditure for a typical year of c. £90,000; i.e. we have more than is needed for the Reserves Policy.

Monies in the Model Trust Fund held by TMCP (£65,833) largely arose from the sale of properties (Manse Wesley, Ty Canol and Penparcau Building) in previous years. The Circuit has drawn on this fund to contribute to the carbon reduction and Lay Missioner projects, and can request to use funds from this source for further projects subject to TMCP approval.

Assessment from the churches

The Circuit has received payments from the two churches in the circuit, at the same rates as in the previous year.

	2023/2024	2024/2025
St Paul's Methodist Church, Aberystwyth	61,031	61,031
St Thomas' Methodist Church, Lampeter	13,796	13,796

District and Synod grants

Within the 2024/25 financial year there is a grant of £4,000 from Wales Synod to contribute towards our activities with students in the Circuit. There are further grants of £10,000 each from the Synod Advance Fund and the Synod block grant for Methodist Action on Poverty and Justice as contributions to the Lay Missioner project.